

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00200 231207Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 231120Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9312

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 0200

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, SU, SA

SUBJECT: REFINANCING SAUDI LINE OF CREDIT SUDAN

1. DURING AN EXTENDED DINNER MEETING WITH PRESIDENT NIMEIRI JAN 22, DAVID ROCKEFELLER RAISED QUESTION OF POSSIBLE RE-FINANCING EXISTING \$200 MILLION EURODOLLAR LOAN BACKED BY SAMA GUARANTEE. ROCKEFELLER TOLD NIMEIRI OMAR SAQQAF HAD CONVEYED TO HIM MESSAGE FROM FAISAL LAST SUMMER SUPPORTING SUCH ACTION AND THAT SIMILAR SUGGESTION HAD ALSO BEEN MADE BY ANWAR ALI. SINCE BOTH HAD SUBSEQUENTLY DIED, ROCKEFELLER WISHED GET NIMEIRI'S VIEW AS TO WHETHER HE SHOULD RAISE SUBJECT SHEN HE SEES FAISAL NEXT WEEK. ROCKEFELLER ADDED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED QUESTION WITH NIMEIRI'S MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FINANCE AND THEY HAD BOTH ENDORSED IDEA OF RE-FINANCING, SINCE THIS WOULD REDUCE CARRYING CHARGES SUBSTANTIALY.

2. SOMEWHAT SURPRISINGLY, NIMEIRI SAID THAT HE DOUBTED FAISAL HAD EVER GIVEN SAQQAF SUCH A MESSAGE AND THAT HE, NIMEIRI, WAS HAPPY WITH EXISITING LOAN, THIRDS 50 MILLION TRANCHE OF WHICH TO BE PAID OVER TO SUDAN IN MARCH. ROCKEFELLER INDICATED HE WOULD NOT PURSUE QUESTION WITH FAISAL.

3. COMMENT: SINCE SOME SORT RE-FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS

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WOULD APPARENTLY MAKE EXCELLENT FINANCIAL SENSE, WE CAN

ONLY CONCLUDE THAT NIMEIRI'S ADAMANT REFUSAL ENDORSE HIS
SENIOR CABINET MINISTERS' PROPOSAL STEMS FROM: (A) HIS
PERSONAL HAPPINESS WITH ORIGINAL LOAN ARRANGEMENTS WORKED
OUT BY ADNAN KHASHOGGI, AND (B) HIS INTENTION ON THIS ISSUE
SUPPORT MINSTATE PRESIDENTIAL AFFS DR BAHA AL-DIN IDRIS (WHO
PUSHED LOAN FOR GOS AGAINST SO-CALLED "ANTI-BAHA" SEGMENT
OF THE CABINET LED BY NIMEIRI'S TWO MOST IMPORTANT MINISTERS.
BREWER

SECRET

NNN

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